

Hamilton County Commissioners' Meeting
P.O. Box 1167
Syracuse, KS 67878
Meeting Place - Commissioner Room
Hamilton County Courthouse
August 11, 2015
8:30 a.m.

Keith A. Puckett, Chairman
John Simon, Vice-Chairman
Randall C. Braddock, Commissioner
Michael W. Lewis, Commissioner
Nikki Schwerdfeger, Commissioner
Rob Gale, Attorney
Angie Moser, County Clerk

Alan Hanson
Brian Bloyd

Commissioner Puckett called the Meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with all Commissioners present.

AGENDA: Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Agenda with the addition of Kerstin Mitchell at 9:45 a.m. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRIOR MINUTES: Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the August 4, 2015 Commissioner Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

PRIOR MINUTES: Commissioner Simon moved to approve the August 4, 2015 Special Commissioner Meeting Minutes as presented. Commissioner Lewis seconded the Motion and it was approved with four "ayes" and one abstention.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: Discussed discrepancies in rural Hamilton County 911 physical addresses.

Attorney Gale joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

MARK CRISTELLI – ATMOS ENERGY: Mr. Cristelli discussed a proposed gas line that would be placed in the easement through County property located south of the road side park continuing through the south and west side of the fair grounds. Attorney Gale informed the County would charge an average of what Atmos Energy would pay to other private land owners. Mr. Cristelli informed Atmos Energy is still in the process of contacting private land owners and that he will speak with the Fair Board and report back to the Commissioners.

HAMILTON COUNTY HOSPITAL: Patrick Geschwind, Interim Hospital CEO, introduced Robert Nahmensen as the new Hospital CEO. Mr. Geschwind and Mr. Nahmensen also discussed the following:

- 1) Reviewed the Hospital's current financial situation.
- 2) There are plans of increasing census in the long term care unit by re-opening the East wing. The Fire Marshall conducted the annual inspection and there were no deficiencies in any part of the Hospital including the East Wing of the Rest Home.
- 3) The proposed line of credit will be discussed further with the local banks.
- 4) BKD, LLP has not presented the audit report to the Hospital Board. Mr. Geschwind informed he contacted BKD, LLP and asked them to present the audit report at the August, 2015 Board Meeting, and if that does not happen he has suggested that Mr. Nahmensen contact another audit firm.
- 5) Reviewed how the Medicare cost reimbursement report is calculated.

STEVE PHILLIPS: Mr. Phillips, Emergency Management Director, the County has an older propane operated generator and a propane tank that was used on the north tower that is no longer being used. Commissioner Lewis moved to declare the generator and the propane tank as surplus property and to list them for sale separately on Purple Wave Auction. Commissioner Braddock seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. Also discussed the rural county 911 addresses. Mr. Phillips informed the Postal Service has not digitized the 911 addresses for Hamilton County which has caused some confusion with the addresses.

KERSTIN MITCHELL: Ms. Mitchell, Rural Operations Secretary, presented an Additional Services Authorization from Kirkham and Michael to handle the advertising and the bid process for digging the proposed new landfill pit. Commissioner Braddock moved to approve the Additional Services Authorization from Kirkham & Michael in the amount of \$2,750.00 for the advertising and bid process for the landfill pit. Commissioner Lewis seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. Ms. Mitchell also informed she ordered 20 bags of grass hopper bait, which will be sold for \$70.00 for a 44 lb. bag only to Hamilton County residents only.

BUDGET HEARING: Commissioner Puckett opened the 2016 Budget hearing at 10:00 a.m. At 10:05 a.m., Commissioner Schwerdfeger moved that the Budget Hearing be closed and the 2016 budget be approved as published. Commissioner Lewis seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

5-YEAR PLAN: The 5-year plan was reviewed.

ROAD PROJECT LIST: The Road Project List was reviewed.

ROAD COMMITTEE REPORT: Commissioner Braddock reported that the crew has several washouts to fix. They are also still hauling material to Road B and mowing ditches.

KAC VOTING DELEGATES: Commissioner Braddock moved that John Simon be appointed as Hamilton County's Delegate to the Kansas Association of Counties' Annual Meeting, with Mike Lewis and Nikki Schwerdfeger being the County's alternate delegates. Commissioner Lewis seconded. The Motion was unanimously approved.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR POSITION: Commissioner Lewis moved for a 10-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, and the County Attorney present. Commissioner Schwerdfeger excused herself from the Executive Session. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 10:10 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m. Commissioner Lewis moved to offer the Economic Development Director position to the candidate recommended by the Economic Development Board with an annual salary of \$35,000.00 with benefits for a six month probation period. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was approved with four "ayes" and one abstention.

WARRANTS: After review and discussion, Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Warrants in the amount of \$87,516.31. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved.

HOSPITAL NO-FUND WARRANTS: None.

COMMISSIONER REPORT: Discussed outside electricity needs at the Donohue Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Braddock moved for a 20-minute executive session for matters pertaining to non-elected personnel with the Commissioners, and the County Attorney. Commissioner Simon seconded the Motion and it was unanimously approved. The executive session began at 10:30 a.m. and the regular meeting resumed at 10:50 a.m.

As there was no more business to come before the meeting, Commissioner Lewis moved for adjournment. Commissioner Braddock seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

ATTEST:

County Clerk

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner